GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2544
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
Monitoring Prices of Medicines
Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the action being taken by the Ministry/Department of Pharmaceutical for monitoring the prices of medicines which comes under the ambit of price control;

(b) whether there is any plan to establish offices of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in various States of the country for better monitoring system in the above connection;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the above project has been approved and funds sanctioned for the purpose and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) monitors the prices of both scheduled and non-scheduled formulations including imported scheduled formulations. In order to monitor compliance of the prices notified under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013), NPPA examines test samples purchased from market. Test samples received from State Drugs Controllers (SDC's) are also examined by NPPA under the provisions of DPCO, 2013.

The NPPA also monitors the movement of prices on the basis of price lists filed by pharmaceutical companies. For this purpose NPPA launched an Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System (IPDMS) on 25th June, 2015. NPPA has issued notices to companies which have not filed mandatory returns online.
(b) & (c): Under the plan scheme, "Scheme of Consumer Awareness & Publicity and Price Monitoring", there is a provision for setting up Price Monitoring and Resource Units (PMRUs) in State Governments under the State Drugs Controller. The scheme, initially at the pilot stage will be implemented in the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Orissa, Haryana, Kerala, Assam and Manipur in the first phase.

(d): The fund allocated for the "Scheme of Consumer Awareness & Publicity and Price Monitoring" for the current year 2016-17 is Rs.5.45 crore out of which Rs.2.00 crore has been earmarked for setting up of Price Monitoring and Resource Units (PMRUs) in the selected States.
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